

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TUNIS 01613 281703 Z

43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 RSR-01 USIE-00

AID-20 CIAE-00 HEW-08 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 PRS-01

RSC-01 SCA-01 SCSE-00 /063 W
----- 044470

Z O 281645 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1289

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE IMMEDIATE

COMSIXTHFLEET FLASH

CINCUSNAVEUR FLASH

USCINCEUR FLASH

UNCLAS TUNIS 1613

DEPT ALSO PASS AID DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SWEL, TS

SUBJECT: TUNISIA REQUESTS IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE FOR
FLOOD VICTIMS

1. PRIMIN NOUIRA CALLED ME IN AT 1615 LOCAL TIME TO
REQUEST OUR IMMEDIATE AND URGENT ASSISTANCE IN COPING
WITH FLASH FLOOD FROM WHICH PART OF TUNISIAN SUFFERING
OVER PAST SEVERAL DAYS. HE ASKED URGENTLY FOR HELICOPTERS,
RUBBER BOATS AND SEARCHLIGHTS TO HELP EVACUATE VICTIMS
WHO REPORTEDLY NOW CLINING TO TREES IN DEVASTATED REGION.

2. NOUIRA SAID PRINCIPAL AREA OF CATASTROPHE IS BETWEEN
MADJE- AL- BAB AND GHARDIMAIO, WHERE WATERS HAVE REPORTEDLY
ALREADY REACHED TEN FOOT LEVEL AND STILL RISING.
NOUIRA HAS DESIGNATED SECGEN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (SLAHEDDINE
BALY) AS CONTACT POINT FOR OUR EFFORTS, AND IMMEDIATELY
AFTER MY RETURN TO EMBASSY FOLLOWING NOUIRA CONVERSATION,
BALY TELEPHONED ME.

3. I AM NOW ATTEMPTING REACH ADMIRAL MILLER, COMM SIXTH
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PAGE 02 TUNIS 01613 281703 Z

FLEET, BY TELEPHONE OR VOICE RADIO TO REPORT REQUEST AND
FIND OUT WHAT RESOURCES MAY BE AVAILABLE.

4. IT APPARENT THAT GOT DOES NOT YET KNOW TRUE EXTENT OF
DAMAGE, AND IS CONCERNED IMMEDIATELY ONLY WITH EVACUATION.
WE EXPECT, HOWEVER, THAT ADDITIONAL REQUESTS WILL FOLLOW,
INCLUDING FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES, TENTS, BLANKETS AND
CLOTHING, ED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 03661 02 OF 02 281709 Z

IS PLACED IN THE DIFFICULT POSITION OF ATTEMPTING TO
REACH CONCLUSIONS AS TO THE ACTION THE COUNCIL SHOULD
TAKE UNDER THE TIN AGREEMENT, AT ITS PRESENT SESSION,
TO ENSURE THE OBJECTIVES OF THAT AGREEMENT.

" THE INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL THEREFORE ASKS TO
BE INFORMED OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S INTENTIONS
AND REQUESTS, HAVING REGARD TO PREVIOUS ASSURANCES
GIVEN TO THE COUNCIL, THAT IF ANY CHANGE IN POLICY OR A
RESUMPTION OF COMMERCIAL SALES OF TIN IS CONTEMPLATED,
THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE CONSULTED."

3. EMBASSY HAS ACKNOWLEDGED RECEIPT OF THIS LETTER AND
HAS ADVISED ALLEN IT BEING TRANSMITTED TO WASHINGTON.

ANNENBERG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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TAGS: SWEL, TS
To: AF
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMSIXTHFLEET
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
SECSTATE WASHDC
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